

What is claimed is:

1. A method of enhancing the photostability of an encapsulated cinnamate derivative in a topical sunscreen composition which comprises introducing into such sunscreen composition an effective amount of at least one additional non-encapsulated sunscreen.

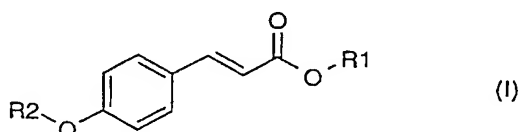
2. The method as in claim 1 wherein the additional non-encapsulated sunscreen is a UV-B or a broad spectrum or a combination of a UV-B and/or a broad spectrum and a UV-A sunscreen.

3. The method as in claim 1 or 2 wherein the encapsulated cinnamate is one prepared by the sol-gel method, a solvent evaporation method, a coacervation method, an interfacial polymerization method or an emulsion/ interfacial emulsion polymerization method.

4. The method as in any one of claims 1 - 3 wherein the microcapsules have as a core a cinnamic acid derivative which is surrounded by a shell of silicon based polymer such as 'sol-gel glass', a silicon-based network polymer, a 'silicone-resin polypeptide', a polyurea, a polyurethane, a polyamide, a polyester or a combination thereof.

5. The method as in claim 3 wherein the encapsulating cinnamate is prepared by the sol-gel method.

6. The method as in any one of claims 1-4 wherein the cinnamate is of the formula I



20 wherein R¹, R², are, independently, hydrogen or saturated straight or branched chain alkyl containing 1 to 21, preferably 1 to 8 carbon atoms, such as methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, butyl, sec. butyl, isobutyl, pentyl, neopentyl, hexyl, 2-ethyl-hexyl, and octyl.

7. The method as in claim 5 wherein the cinnamate is 2-ethylhexyl-p-methoxycinnamate

25 8. The method as in any one of claims 1-6 wherein the additional non-encapsulated sunscreen is selected from DEA-Methoxycinnamate, diethylhexyl butamido triazine, diisopropyl methyl cinnamate, 1-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-4,4-dimethyl-1,3-pentanedione,

drometrizole trisiloxane, benzophenone-3, benzophenone-4, 3-benzylidene camphor, benzylidene camphor sulfonic acid, bis-ethylhexyloxyphenol methoxyphenyl triazine, butyl methoxydibenzoylmethane, camphor benzalkonium methosulfate, ethyl diisopropylcinnamate, 2-ethylhexyl dimethoxybenzylidene dioxoimidazolidine
5 propionate, ethylhexyl dimethyl PABA, ethylhexyl salicylate, ethylhexyl triazone, ethyl PABA, homosalate, isoamyl p-methoxycinnamate, menthyl anthranilate, 4-methylbenzylidene camphor, methylene-bis-benzotriazolyl tetramethylbutylphenol, octocrylene, PABA, phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid, polyacrylamidomethyl benzylidene camphor, polysilicone-15, potassium phenylbenzimidazole sulfonate, sodium
10 phenylbenzimidazole sulfonate, TEA-salicylate, terephthalidene dicamphor sulfonic acid, 2,2-(1,4-phenylene)bis-(1H-benzimidazol-4,6-disulfonic acid, 2-(4-Diethylamino-2-hydroxy-benzoyl)-benzoic acid hexylester, microfine titanium dioxide and microfine zinc oxide.
